

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

5/6/2011

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## **BOB BANGHART REPORTS ON ANLAMs**

The Alaska Native Libraries, Archives & Museums Summit (ANLAMs) was held last week. This week we feature the following report from Bob Banghart, Chief Curator of the Alaska State Museums:

“The ANLAM Conference held the week of April 25, 2011, in Anchorage, in my opinion heralds the beginning of a new era of development for community created small museum, archive, library and cultural facilities. Besides being an impressive array of participants and presenters the event brought old and new friends and colleagues together for 4 days of discussion, exploration and sharing. Topics were varied but centered on the state of material and cultural preservation, programming and purpose in Alaska, how it is being successfully supported and what resources are available to strengthen the collective mission in communities across the state.

I participated in a couple of sessions; Museums 101 and Community Curatorial Process. The first session was a round table discussion with a variety of museum professionals sharing their backgrounds and what brought them to the field. We each put forward the core elements of museum work; what we find fulfilling to what we find frustrating. Responses to questions from the audience ranged from anecdotes to advice for folks interested in or just starting out in the business. The second session focus was demonstrating the opportunity for a community to drive their interpretive programming from the inside, as contrasted to hiring an “out-of-house” design/interpretive firm. We shared a methodology on “community curated exhibits” complete with a notebook formatting tool that walked the participants through the cycle of exhibit development. The response was very encouraging and indicated folks are ready to define for themselves their stories, lifeways and histories.

My overall assessment of the event outstripped my expectations by a large margin. If we, as established institutions, can nurture this effort for a few years I foresee a dynamic shift in how communities within Alaska will view themselves, their relationships to the obligation of preservation, collection, interpretation of material culture and the sharing of their collective stories. “

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If you would like to share your ANLAMs experience in one to three paragraphs, please e-mail us.

## **OWL NEWS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 5/6/2011**

Shane Southwick, OWL Network Coordinator, sent us this report on Alaska Online With Libraries (OWL) report:

The OWL project is really beginning to take off (no pun intended). Over the past couple of weeks we have been working with the libraries in the MatSu Borough indentifying their computing equipment needs. Last Wednesday (5/4) we had two representatives from CISCO in our office. CISCO is the company who will be providing the video conferencing equipment for each library. We took them on site visits to libraries in Big Lake, Willow, Sutton, and Palmer. It was exciting to see them light up with excitement up when they heard each librarian talk about how they planned to use video conferencing in their libraries. Thank you to Jo Cassidy in Big Lake, Beth Skow in Palmer, Julie Mitchell in Willow and Nancy Bertels in Sutton for your hospitality.

Over the next few weeks OWL will be focusing on those libraries currently in compliance with Department of Commerce broadband speed requirements. We will be working with each of these libraries to identify their Personal Computing Center (PCC) equipment needs and getting this equipment ordered and shipped.

If you have any questions regarding the OWL project, please contact Shane Southwick via email [shane.southwick@alaska.gov](mailto:shane.southwick@alaska.gov) or by phone at 907.269.4611.

OWL quote of the week.

“When men speak ill of thee, live so as nobody may believe them”

Plato

## **ALASKA STATE COURT LAW LIBRARY IN DEPOSITORY SPOTLIGHT**

Each month, the Government Printing Office highlights one of the nation's 1,250 Federal Depository Libraries that does a particularly good job in providing access to federal government information. For May, the Alaska State Court Law Library (ASCLL) was featured in the “Depository Library Spotlight” at <http://www.fdlp.gov/outreach/spotlight/933-akstatecrlawlibrary>. The article concludes with this well deserved praise:

“By deciding to reach out to all Alaskans to the greatest extent possible and considering the geographic area, it is clear that the ASCLL has gone to great lengths to provide access to legal information and Federal Government Publications. For these efforts, the Government Printing Office would like to say thank-you to the ASCLL for their continued participation in the Federal Depository Library Program.”

Besides the ASCLL there are six other Federal Depository Libraries in Alaska: Alaska State Library (Juneau), ARLIS (Anchorage), Elmer E. Rasmuson Library UAF (Fairbanks), UAS Ketchikan Campus Library, Consortium Library (UAA) and the UAS William A Egan Library (Juneau). More Information about these libraries can be viewed at [http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp?flag=searchp&st\\_12=AK](http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp?flag=searchp&st_12=AK). Thanks to Rose Welton for this item.

## **ELVIS HAS LEFT THE BUILDING**

Thinking of naming a child anytime soon? This year's list of the nation's most popular baby names has just been released in time for Mother's Day! Some names might be a surprise and others expected. Either way, the Social Security Administration is sure you will enjoy learning a number of interesting facts in a [press release](http://www.ssa.gov/pressoffice/pr/baby-names2010-pr.html) at <http://www.ssa.gov/pressoffice/pr/baby-names2010-pr.html>. Among other things, we learned that, for the first time since 1954, Elvis is not on the list of the 1000 most popular names.

## **AUTHOR DEB VANASSE SPEAKS IN SAINT PAUL**

Earle Trumble, Business Manager and Library Director for the Pribilof School District, sent us a picture taken during a Saturday Library opening at the St. Paul Library. They were lucky to have Ms. Deb Vanasse, an Alaska author, visit the library. A few minutes after this picture was taken Ms. Vanasse, who is the center of attention of this picture, read one of her children's books to the people in attendance. This was a very memorable day in the life of THE library.

Thanks for sending in the photo and news item, Earle!



## **STATE MUSEUM OPENS HATS EXHIBIT ON MAY 6**

The Alaska State Museum in Juneau will be open with extended hours on May 6 during the First Friday gallery walk with free admission from 4 to 7 p.m. The event will mark the opening of a new exhibit, “Just Old Hats: Headgear in Alaska History.”

On display as a part of the “Hats” exhibit will be headwear worn in the past by Alaska Natives, Russians, Siberians and Sámi people, as well as more recent fashions donned by military members, miners and everyday Alaskans. The exhibit will highlight details about how the hats were designed and used as well as their meanings and associations.

Notable pieces include a beret worn by former Gov. Jay Hammond, a handmade gut piece in the form of a Russian sailor’s hat, a beaded Tlingit headdress, and many other ceremonial Alaska Native pieces.

Visitors are encouraged to show off their stylish toppers at Friday’s Parade of Hats and Tea Party, sponsored by the Friends of the Alaska State Museum. Ribbons will be awarded to the best hats in attendance.

## **CONGRATULATIONS ELIZABETH MOREAU!**

The Alaska State Library wishes to congratulate Elizabeth Moreau, Manager of the Mountain View Neighborhood Library for the Anchorage Public Library. As previously reported on the AkLA-L discussion list, Elizabeth has been selected to serve on the 2013 Newberry Committee, the Committee that selects the winner of the Newberry Medal. The Newbery Medal was named for eighteenth-century British bookseller John Newbery. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. The official web announcement can be found at <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/aboutalsc/governance/election/2011results.cfm>.

Committee members serve for two years though they only work on one year’s award. They read and review eligible books for their award year (for Elizabeth, books published in 2012) and through emails, meetings, chats, they agree to choose which book is the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children that year. To be eligible the book must be written by an American citizen or resident. The final decision is made in January at the Midwinter conference (in 2013, for Elizabeth) and announced them. In addition to the medal award book, the committee can designate honor books as well.

## **FRIDAY BULLETIN**

**Linda Thibodeau, State Librarian and Director**

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